

prorated for the last partial year. No GCT can be earned on, or awarded to, a sentence of one year or less.

(2) The BOP has 15 days after the end of each full year served to make a determination as to the amount of the 54 days that shall be awarded. If the BOP makes no decision about the amount of GCT to award in the 15 days at the end of the year just served, then the entire 54 days will be automatically credited to the sentence on the Vested Date. Therefore, before awarding any GCT on the Vested Date, staff shall review the SENTRY disciplinary log to determine if any GCT had been disallowed during the preceding anniversary period. If no GCT was disallowed during the preceding anniversary period, then the GCT SENTRY data base shall be updated with the total amount of GCT possible to earn and a copy of the disciplinary log, as well as a copy of the GCT record (both signed and dated by the ISM staff member making the change and the auditor), shall be placed in the Judgment and Commitment File. *

If some or all of the GCT had been disallowed during the preceding anniversary period and no BP-448 (Good Conduct Time Action Notice) has been received by the Vested Date that matches the disciplinary log record, then the disciplinary log shall be used as the official record for disallowing GCT on the Vested Date. A copy of the disciplinary log shall be placed in the Judgment and Commitment File pending receipt of a BP-448 that matches the information on the disciplinary log. After receipt of the BP-448 the disciplinary log copy shall be destroyed. Again, an updated copy of the

copy of the SENTRY GCT record (signed and dated by the ISM staff member making the change and the auditor) shall be placed in the Judgment and Commitment File. *

(5) An action to delay, disallow or suspend the award of some or all of the GCT for a decision at a later time that is not within the 15 day, or six week, consideration time periods is not authorized.

For release purposes, subsection 3624(b) is the most important provision in the computation process since the proper application of that subsection determines the actual statutory date of release for the prisoner. The release date is determined, of course, by subtracting the total amount of GCT awarded during the term of the sentence from the full term date of the sentence. The total amount of GCT awarded during the term of a sentence is found by adding the amount of GCT awarded at the end of each year to the amount of GCT awarded for the last portion of a year.

As noted in (1) above, 54 days of GCT may be awarded for each full year served on a sentence in excess of one year. Since 54 days of GCT per year cannot be divided evenly into one year, or 12 months, or 52 weeks, or 365 days, determining the amount of GCT that may be awarded for the last portion of a year on the sentence becomes arithmetically complicated. The BOP has developed a formula (hereinafter called the "GCT formula") that

best conforms to the statute when calculating the maximum number of days that may be awarded for the time served during the last portion of a year on the sentence.

The GCT formula is based on dividing 54 days (the maximum number of days that can be awarded for one year in service of a sentence) into one day which results in the portion of one day of GCT (continued on next page)

that may be awarded for one day served on a sentence. 365 days divided into 54 days equals .148. Since .148 is less than one full day, no GCT can be awarded for one day served on the sentence. Two days of service on a sentence equals .296 (2 x .148) or zero days GCT; three days equals .444 (3 x .148) or zero days GCT; four days equals .592 (4 x .148) or zero days GCT; five days equals .74 (5 x .148) or zero days GCT; six days equals .888 (6 x .148) or zero days GCT; and seven days equals 1.036 (7 x .148) or 1 day GCT. The fraction is always dropped.

Since, in accordance with the statute (18 USC § 3624(b)), no GCT can be awarded to a sentence of one year or less, then the very shortest sentence that can be awarded GCT is a sentence of 1 year and 1 day. Because a prisoner would accrue GCT while serving a sentence of 1 year and 1 day and, therefore, serve something less than the full sentence, it would be impossible to accrue the full 54 days of GCT for a sentence of 1 year and 1 day. As a result, the GCT formula previously discussed must be utilized as shown below to determine the amount of GCT to award for a partial year. This method of calculating the GCT possible to award for the last portion of a year of a sentence to be served must be followed in all partial year calculations. (For the purpose of this demonstration, the sentence of 1 year and 1 day equals 366 days.)

Step No. 1

Sentence = 366 - 54 = 312 days

312 days served does not equal 54 days of GCT but does equal 46 days.

Step No. 2

Days Served = $312 \times .148 = 46.176 = 46$ days GCT

Subtracting 46 days from the sentence of 366 days results in 320 days to be served.

Step No. 3

Sentence = $366 - 46 = 320$ days

46 days of GCT is not enough because 46 plus 312 days to be served equals a sentence of 358 days, 8 days short of a sentence of 366 days (1 year and 1 day).

Step No. 4

Time Served = $312 + 46 = 358$ days

Comparing 320 days to serve, which is too much time to serve, with 312 days to serve, which is not enough time to serve, reveals that the amount of GCT that can be earned must fall somewhere between 54 and 46 days. As a result, the next step is to determine how much GCT can be earned on 320 days served.

Step No. 5

Time Served = $320 \times .148 = 47.36 = 47$ days GCT

Subtracting 47 days from the sentence of 366 days (1 year and 1 day) results in 319 days to be served.

Step No. 6

Sentence = $366 - 47 = 319$ days

Utilizing the GCT formula, it is learned that 319 days served equals 47 days GCT.

Step No. 7

Time Served = $319 \times .148 = 47.212 = 47$ days GCT

Adding 319 days time served to 47 days GCT does equal a sentence of 366 days (1 year and 1 day).